LIBRARY
RECEIVED
DEC 26 1942
U. S. Department of Agriculture

UCAPAWA News

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE UNITED CANNERY, AGRICULTURAL, PACKING AND ALLIED WORKERS OF AMERICA-CIO

VOL. II—No. 27 DECEMBER 15, 1942

Library
U. S. Dept. of Agriculture
Washington D. C.

Index

	PAGE
News of Conferences	3
President Henderson's Column	4
Sec'y.-Treas. Lane on the New Constitution	5
Equal Pay for Women	6
Huge Magazine Exposed	7
Tolan—The Man Nobody Knew	8

Life of Ark. Member Threatened

Memphis, Tenn.—Wesley Porter and Jim Boyd, members of Local 232 in Helena, Ark. were thrown into jail on Dec. 5 without any charges preferred against them and denied the right to see the union lawyer, Bertha Engleberg of Memphis. The men were released Dec. 9, following stiff UCAPAWA protests signed by Int. Rep. A. J. Marcus, to the Chief of Police and the County Sheriff, as well as to the Civil Liberties Division of the U. S. Department of Justice and the National Labor Relations Board giving the full story.

COPS SAY "SCRAM—OR ELSE"

Since then, Porter has been informed by the Helena police that if he doesn't get out of town in 30 days he will be killed.

The Union has wired the Department of Justice to act immediately "to prevent a killing."

The entire CIO movement in the area is being rallied to fight this outbreak of lawlessness. All UCAPAWA locals are urged to join the campaign by communicating with the Civil Liberties Division, Department of Justice, Washington, D. C., asking that they move swiftly to protect the lives of these UCAPAWA brothers, and to see that American justice is enforced in Helena, Ark.

TERROR-RIDDEN AREA

This outbreak of lawlessness has a long background. CIO organizers were driven out of Helena in Sept. 1941 by vigilantes. Since then, in spite of all difficulties, Local 232 has won three NLRB elections by landslide votes, and negotiated three contracts. Most recent contract was won at Helena Cotton Oil Mill, the plant where Porter and Boyd work.

During trouble at the mill over the summary firing of Porter from his job, a non-nion worker received a slight flesh wound from a pistol fired at him by some unknown person. It was after that that Boyd and Porter were arrested.

Full history of Local 232 showing what they are up against will be printed in the News at an early date.

Send your message to the Dept. of Justice NOW. Time doesn't wait!

The 1943 Picture for Every UCAPAWA Home. Let's Go!

WLB Goes to Work on DWG and Quaker Cases

Washington, D. C.—Appointment of the referee in the Deisel-Wemmer-Gilbert Cigar case involving locals 58, 69, 70, 71, 72, and 73 has been announced by W. H. Davis, Chairman of the War Labor Board.

J. S. Gambs, the referee, will get in touch with all parties to arrange a mutually satisfactory time for a hearing, to be held around Dec. 15 or 16. The DWG case involves terms of the new contract, to cover some 2,000 workers.

Cedar Rapids, Iowa.—After a two month waiting period, word has been received by Quaker Oats Local 110 here at the world's biggest cereal mill, that the War Labor Board will appoint a referee to hear the demands of the Union which are still pending, according to Int. Rep. Jack Fox.

SEEK UNION SHOP

Foremost of the points which UCAPAWA is pushing is the Union Shop. The Union is also asking for wage increases and night bonuses, with a retroactive date to October for payment of such increases as may be determined by the Board.

Following three weeks of heated negotiations and the calling in of the U. S. Conciliation Service, a settlement was reached on such points as improved seniority, grievance procedure, labor management production council, etc., while the unsettled points of wages, night bonus and union shop were referred to the WLB.

LOCAL FLOURISHING

Local 110 is proud to announce that since the beginning of negotiations, about three months ago, membership in the Union has grown tremendously. The Union is confident of another victory before the National War Labor Board.

Christmas Greetings!

We send our sincere good wishes to all UCAPAWA members and their families, especially to those who are serving in the Armed Forces.

We know that without the hard and loyal work of the members, UCAPAWA could not have grown and prospered as it has in the past year. We all are proud of the job we are doing to help defeat Fascism.

For the coming year, which will be a hard one for all of us, we have but one wish:

For Victory in the Peoples' War!
May We Win a Peoples' Peace!

Donald Henderson, President
Conrad Espe, Executive Vice-President
Harold J. Lane, Secretary-Treasurer.

UCAPAWA Gifts Go to 300 Boys

UCAPAWA members in the Armed Services will be remembered by union brothers and sisters if Local 80 in Camden, N. J., and Local 55 in Middletown, Ohio, are any example.

Local 80's Welfare Committee is sending over 300 gift boxes to their fighting brothers, according to Secy. Treas. Harold J. Lane, who happened onto the mound of presents when he was in the Local 80 office recently.

CANDY, SMOKES, ETC.

"When I opened one of the gift boxes," comments Lane, "I found some very useful items, such as shaving materials, candy, smokes—a gift box that I am certain the boys will welcome. This local is sincere when it says 'we'll remember the boys in the Armed Forces'."

Local 55 is taking up a collection for a Christmas fund for the boys. They are also welcoming Pvt. George Walty who is home for furlough.

Our National Office Is Moving to Philly

After Jan. 1, 1943 the National Office of UCAPAWA will be at 1505 Race St., Philadelphia, Pa. All communications should be sent there.

The office is being moved from Chicago to Philadelphia following an Executive Board decision at the meeting after the Convention in October.

Reason for making the move is the fact that it is important to be as near Washington, D. C. as possible at this time when much key union work is carried on through Government Agencies.

Soy Bean Local Organizes Sugar Refinery Workers

Decatur, Ind.—Organize the unorganized, build UCAPAWA is the watchword of Local 44 at the soya bean oil mill here.

Under the leadership of Kenneth Hirschy, Local 44 Secy.-Treas. and others, Local 44 has signed up the workers in the Central Sugar Co., a sugar beet refinery which employs from 50 to 400, depending on the season.

CIO-AFL MOVE CLOSER TO UNITY AS JOINT AGREEMENT IS SIGNED

Chicago.—The agreement signed by the six-man CIO-AFL Peace Committee in Washington on Dec. 2 was hailed by UCAPAWA Executive Officers as a healthy step toward a united labor movement. Here is the text of the joint statement:

"The AFL and CIO peace committee, in an effort to make its maximum contribution to our country in the war and for the furtherance and protection of the conditions of the workers, today agreed upon the following:

"We are convinced that if peace negotiations are to be successfull and unity achieved, cooperation among our respective members and organizations must be encouraged and promoted. It is our belief that it would be extremely difficult to make satisfactory progress toward unity through these negotiations if in the meantime there is an absence of practical cooperation between the two organizations.

ESTABLISH JURISDICTIONAL COMMITTEE

"We agree to the establishment of a joint AFL-CIO committee to hear and decide any disputed jurisdictional differences that may arise between the two above named organizations. If the joint committee fails to agree upon a complaint lodged with the committee it shall select a disinterested arbiter to render a decision on the dispute in question. The arbiter's decision shall [illegible] and binding upon both parties. In the event an [illegible] agreed upon by the committee within [illegible] the United States shall be requ[illegible] for [illegible] that this

THE CIO NEWS
718 JACKSON PLACE N. W. • WASHINGTON, D. C.

Chicago.—We are all plagued by false and inadequate stories which appear about labor in most daily papers. Yet most of us do not subscribe to our own CIO paper, the **CIO News**, a weekly which is mailed to homes for $1 a year, with lower prices for group subscriptions.

To correct this, the national CIO has started a subscription campaign, asking that AT LEAST all officers of all local unions become subscribers.

LOCALS REPORT SUBS

Full information has been sent by UCAPAWA to all Local Unions, including letters from CIO Pres. Philip Murray and Pres. Donald Henderson, who asks each local to report action taken.

Local 80 in Camden, N. J., is the first to check in with the news that 25 subscriptions have been taken for the officers and leading people.

UCAPAWA News is our paper. But so also is the **CIO News** which tells of activities of all CIO unions, together with full coverage of the CIO campaigns in which UCAPAWA works jointly with the other 41 National CIO Unions.

Canned Salmon Local Gives $534 to USO

Seattle.—While the 1,500 or more members of Cannery Workers' and Farm Laborers' Local 7 who are in the armed services are putting everything they have into winning the war, the membership back home does not stand idle. They are backing up the boys on the production lines and with money.

PRODUCE FOR UNCLE SAM

All of the canned salmon, some five to seven million cases, which the members packed in Alaska, goes to the Government. Between canning seasons, reports Pres. Trinidad Rojo, the members work in various war industries, in army depots, ports of embarkation, on the farms and in other basic war industries.

Some $534 has been sent by Local 7 to the United Service Organization in San Luis Obispo, Calif., where the Filipino Regiment is located. Many Local 7 members are in this regiment.

BIG BOND BUYERS

Moreover, the Local has bought $6,500 in War Bonds, in addition to large amounts purchased by individual members. At a recent Filipino Day at Victory Square which Local 7 helped organize, some $48,050 was put into War Bonds to buy "planes to bomb Tokyo."

Tobacco Workers Aid Steel Organizing Drive

By Jennie Stiver, Press Agent

Middletown, Ohio.—The growth of the CIO in this city rejoices Local 55 at P. Lorillard (Tobacco). Montgomery Ward is now a 100% CIO Department Store.

Now we really know where to do our Christmas shopping. Let's make them glad to know us, and prove to them that Local 55 has axiously awaited this event.

WPA MAN PRAISES LABOR

The big drive to organize Armco into the CIO Steel Union moved forward with a mass meeting at the High School addressed by Harry Raulfs of the War Production Board. In connection with this drive, the CIO has been viciously attacked by certain groups in town.

Raulfs praised labor for its part in war feats. "Labor is always more willing to cooperate than big business," he said.

BLASTS LABOR BAITERS

Some 1,800 labor management production committees have been set up to increase production, and wherever labor and management cooperate, they are successful, according to Raulfs, who also deplored attacks on the labor movement.

"Those who attack the patriotism and sincerity of labor are usually using a smoke screen to hide their guilty conscience," said Raulfs.

John J. Riffe, National Director of the Armco Organizing Committee, and John Ramsey, United Steelworkers of America Representative, also spoke. Joe Farrell acted as chairman.

Miss Lois Murphy sang patriotic songs accompanied by Miss Ada Louise Wishaar. (Note: The Editor believes Lois Murphy is the daughter of E. P. Murphy, Local 55 Secy.-Treas.)

WARM WOOLEN SOCKS and other contents of a Red Cross kit containing clothing and comfort articles for sea[illegible]ued from torpedoed vessels are inspected by Vin[illegible] (AFL) and Sadie Sokolove (CIO) at the [illegible]ders and Red Cross officials in [illegible]APAWA families who sew

Fight Quaker Pact Violation

By Agnes Dvorak, Pr. Ag.

Cedar Rapids, Iowa.—Quaker Oats violated a part of the contract with Local 110 by working extra help, while a large group of regular workers were laid off on the Saturday following Thanksgiving.

We are at a deadlock on this issue, which will likely go to the Conciliation Panel.

BREAK CHECK PROMISE

Furthermore, the Company has failed to keep its verbal promise that those working on the 11 to 7 night shift may get their check on pay days before they go home in the morning. This likewise will probably have to go to the Panel.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Mr. Ed Nix is no longer connected with UCAPAWA in any [illegible]city.

Notes from LOCALS

7 New officers of Local 7 in Seattle were installed for the coming year at an Inaugural Dance held late in Nov. Mr. William J. Pennock, Member of the Washington State House of Representatives and Vice-President of the Washington Commonwealth Federation, was Master of Ceremonies.

47 Story on the new Libby, McNeill, and Libby contract with Local 47 at the Blue Island, Ill., plant in last issue slipped on a point. The 5c increase won in 1941 came in November, not in May as stated in the News story.

55 Elected on Dec. 3, to take office for the year 1943 in Local 55, P. Lorillard (Tobacco) in Middletown, Ohio, are: Oscar Riley, Pres.; Elizabeth McPherson, Vice-Pres.; Nathan J. Riddle, Treas.; Nellie Lewis, Rec. Secy.; E. P. Murphy, Fin. Secy.; Jesse Rose, Guide; James Campbell, Henderson Rose and Lee Carter, Trustees; Henry Sargent, Inside Doorman; Edward Ledford, Outside Doorman; Barney Smith, Sick Committee; Jennie Stiver, Press Agent; and Arthur Augspurger, Nathan J. Riddle, John H. Sexton and Lee Carter, Shop Committee.

70 Lima, Ohio Local 70 has made plans for a reading table in the dining room of DWG South Side plant (cigars). All pamphlets sent to the Local are to be placed there for the benefit of the members. Bulletins and other items of interest will be found there also. Ruby Catlett, Chairman of the Educational Committee is in charge of this project.

Waunita Plaugher, appointed as Chairman of War Activities at the Nov. Conference of all Ohio DWG locals, plans to sell War Stamps each Friday at the South Side plant.

TWICE MONTHLY COOKIES

The cookies, baked by members of Local 69 and 70 two days each month are taken to the WAVS Canteen where they are given free to all service men who pass through Lima on the trains.

Officers for the coming year are: Elizabeth Settlemire, Pres.; Laura Kohli, Vice-Pres.; Gladys Basiger, Fin. Secy.; Stella Sutton, Treas.; and Ruby Catlett, Rec. Secy.

—By Ruby Catlett, Pr. Ag.

91 Two members of Local 91 in New Orleans (El Trelles Cigars) appeared on the radio, together with Int. Vice-Pres. Armando Valdes, to explain to the people of New Orleans about how they were locked out when they asked for more wages. (Story of the El Trelles lock-out was in Dec. 1 News).

HAND ROLLERS SPEEDED

Rose Schneider and Inez Boudreaux spoke for the Local. Explaining the job of rolling cigars by hand on piece work, Sister Schneider said: "Ines makes $20. a week, and I make $31.50 every week I turn out 1,100 cigars every day. Most of the rollers only make $16 a week, and that's the minimum salary.

GIRLS CRY

"They are the people that Inez and I are fighting for, the people who work hard, and turn out a good day's work, yet aren't fast enough to make more money.

"You ought to see those poor girls. The bosses tell them that they have to make 550 cigars every day and it just drives them crazy. Sometimes they go home crying."

120 1943 Officers of Quaker Oats Local 120 in Akron, Ohio, have been chosen: Ray Rowles, Pres.; Ray Ochs, Vice-Pres.; George Chomis, Chief Shop Steward; Kenneth Loy, Fin. Secy.-Treas.; Ed Baltzer, Rec. Secy.; Lacy Ransdell, Trustee 3-year term; Lewis Barnes, Guard.

179 Clyde De Good and Elmer Ringer have been elected on the CIO War Relief and Transportation Committee of Local 179 (soy beans) in Toledo, Ohio, according to Press Agent Leo Howell. Brother Baker, recovered from injuries, thanked the Local in person for their contributions while he was sick.

DIGS UP ADDRESSES

Brother Howell obtained the service addresses of all but two of the boys in the Armed Forces by writing to their homes in Toledo, and sent the list to **UCAPAWA News**. As a result these Brothers got their News, beginning back with the Convention Issue, and will get all future copies.

The trouble Brother Howell took will be deeply appreciated by the men who are fighting for us.

448 Just a trifle late in reporting the splendid party Local 448 (amalgamated) and its affiliates had on Oct. 31 in La Crosse, Wisconsin. Brother John Schnell, George Jacobus and Floyd Likens were on the Committee.

There were plenty of refreshments for every one present. With dancing in order for the evening, all had a pleasant time together.

I am sorry we did not send a delegate to the Convention in Chicago, which I understand was very interesting and educational to all who attended.

Geo. H. Jacobus, Pr. Ag.

Just in time to be squeezed under the wire comes news that Local 55 voted to use the money in the flower fund and the proceeds from a pie supper to buy two $100 War Bonds . . . Local 58 voted unanimously to purchase a $100 War Bond immediately, and a War Bond each month hereafter.

Locals to Get Dope On Government Rules

An Analysis of Government Decisions affecting labor-management relations is being sent to the Executive Board of all Industrial Locals regularly every week.

In a letter to the Locals, Secy.-Treas. Harold J. Lane explains that these reports have proved so valuable to the International Representatives that it is now recommended that the officers of each Local start keeping up-to-date on the "rules."

WLB STRIKE DECISIONS

First issue to go to the Locals, that of Dec. 7, summarized how the War Labor Board treats a union which strikes in wartime, as well as covering other recent WLB decisions on wage increase questions.

Smitty says—

"An office boy like me doesn't make much money, but I'm putting 10% into War Bonds every payday 'cause it's my duty."

"Top That 10% by Nov. Year's"

AUNT JEMIMA PANCAKES served by members of Local 120 to the delegates to the Ohio Conference in Akron went over big. The ready-mix flour is made in the Akron Quaker Oats plant, under contract with Local 120. Admiring the hot cakes are (l. to r.) Mrs. Ray A. Rowles and Mrs. Elizabeth Laudon, Chief Shop Steward for Women who together cooked the meal; Conrad Espe, Executive Vice-Pres.; and Ray A. Rowles, Local 120 Pres. who has been appointed an International Representative.

Southern California and Ohio Conferences

Local 78 Delegates Ask Vote to Boost Dues

Further post-Convention Area Conferences of the Locals to plan for strengthening and extending UCAPAWA in each region have been held in Southern California and Ohio, reported below. The Michigan confab is slated for Dec. 13. Three other Conferences, two in the East and one in the Mississippi Delta area, were reported in the last issue of the News.

SO. CALIFORNIA

Los Angeles.—The rapid growth and consolidation of Local 78 will continue and increase as a result of a program worked out by some 25 delegates who met here Nov. 28 in a conference that went on late into the night.

Election of an Organizing Committee and increase of dues to $5 quarterly were the chief proposals of the Conference. President Donald Henderson and Vice-Presidents Luisa Moreno and Dixie Tiller, who heads the shed drive, took part in the meeting.

TO ELECT COMMITTEE

Election of Organizing Committee and the vote on quartely payment of dues and the dues increase will be conducted by secret ballot between Dec. 15, 1942, and Jan. 15, 1943.

Six candidates for the Organizing Committee will be elected by each division: 1. lettuce, carrots, broccoli and celery; 2. melons and 3. small fruit. From this number nine will be elected to serve, together with the International Representatives. The Committee will meet at least every six weeks.

These and other decisions reached on Local 78 affairs have been reported fully to the membership through a Bulletin on Conference Decisions.

POWERFUL IN SHEDS

Having grown from 900 to over 4,000 in membership since February, 1942, when the UCAPAWA Shed Organizing Drive started, Local 78 has become a power in the fresh fruit and vegetable packing sheds which range over a 1,000 mile area from Phoenix, Arizona to Marysville, California. Some of the members move from deal to deal, others live in one spot, working only during the season in that area.

OTHER LOCALS CONFER

Delegates from the Southern California locals met the day following the 78 Conference to go over the problems of Local 2, the newly chartered local at Val Vita cannery; Local 3 which now has some 2,000 members, Local 64 at the big Van Camp Seafood cannery in San Diego, as well as Local 78.

Plans for further organizing in Southern California assure the continued steady growth of UCAPAWA in that area.

OHIO CONFERENCE

Akron, Ohio.—Delegates from a number of Ohio Locals met here Dec. 6 to work out area plans for what Executive Vice-President Conrad Espe terms "UCAPAWA's Winter Offensive."

Setting the tone for the meeting, Espe left no question as to the serious problems ahead of the Unions. With a war to win against World Fascism, this is also tied up with problems in our own country. "The Poll Tax Congressmen, plus the Nov. 3 elections plus a repetition of Nov. 3, and the unions could be wiped out by a vote in Congress," Espe warned.

WINTER OFFENSIVE PLAN

To help meet the situation, Espe offered a two-point program which after discussion the delegates voted to take back to their locals:

1. For all locals except Deisel-Wemmer-Gilbert, establishment of an Ohio Organizing Committee, with two delegates from each Local; this committee to support at least one Organizer, with whom they will work on organizing drives; finances to come from the Locals at the rate of 10c or 15c per member per month, to be raised as each Local decides; Committee to be chaired by an International Representative.

2. For the DWG Locals the proposal is to extend the functions of their already existing Council; work of the DWG Council to be coordinated with that of the Ohio Organizing Committee by having DWG Council representatives on the Committee.

DELEGATES WELCOMED

Paul Fessenden, Executive Secretary of the Akron Industrial Union Council, and Harley Treen, Pres. of the Firestone Rubber Local were among those who greeted the delegates. Connie Anderson, Editor of UCAPAWA News spoke of reporting and other jobs to be done by the Locals so that the paper will be a useful part of the Winter Offensive to build UCAPAWA.

Local 120 treated the delegates to a lunch of Aunt Jemima CIO made pancakes, sausage, and coffee. (See photo above.)

The following Locals were represented at the Conference: 69, 70, 72, 120, 179, and 352.

U.S.A. Enters Chi. Campbell Talks

Chicago.—With Campbell Soup management holding out against union demands for union security, wage increases and proper senority and grievance procedure clauses in the next contract with Local 194, the Union has called upon the U. S. government for aid.

First meeting with a U. S. Conciliator will be held promptly, according to Int. Rep. Jack Fox.

Did you write your Union Brother who is in the Armed Forces?

Uncle Sam's Stew Canners "Go" for Union

Sterling, Ill.—Dec. 10 was a red-letter day for the workers at Sterling Brands, Inc. After a three week campaign, Local 310 gained recognition through an NLRB cross-check of union cards and received its charter at a packed, enthusiastic meeting.

Executive Vice-Pres. Conrad Espe who installed the charter emphasized that this is a victory not only for the Sterling Brands workers, but also for the cause of "Food for Victory."

"In order to defeat Fascism," said Espe, "not only the people of America, but the democratic peoples of the world will have to be fed largely through our efforts. Through our Food-for-Victory union we will do the job well."

UCAPAWA has already been working with Uncle Sam's Quartermaster Corps to see that beef stew made in this plant will be turned out and delivered to the Army in top style.

TO BUILD IN SHOP

Beatrice Johnston, Int. Rep., told the members that "no union can be built from the outside in; the union must be built from the inside of the shop out—then it will have a lasting foundation." Sister Johnston, an outstanding trade unionist who has just joined the UCAPAWA staff, aided in Sterling organization.

The members are "rarin' to go" on this job of union building. Their record of signing up over 66% of the shop in such a short time shows they have the stuff it takes. With many young high school women bubbling over with energy, the steward system in the shop is expected to be ace high. Betty Williamson and Vera Jackley, both only 19, who started the union ball rolling are typical of the young crowd.

PROUD OF UCAPAWA

But age in years means nothing in the union. The mature women, too, have the spirit. Take Mrs. Alexander, for instance, when she went to see about going back to work the day after the union was certified. Mrs. Alexander had the well-known UCAPAWA button placed jauntily in her hat.

The boss said, "So you're a member of the Union," with what seemed a note of disapproval in his voice.

"Yes, I am," said Mrs. A, "and I'm proud of that red, white and blue button.

"What's more, we're recognized by the U. S. Government."

FOR EQUAL PAY

The men, too, are in the Union. Their present pay is 50c an hour, 10c more than the women get. All are out for an increase, and for equal pay for equal work, no matter what the sex of the worker may be.

The plant, located in the Sterling-Rock Falls community of some 21,000, employes 279 now, with about 400 at the peak.

Negotiations for a contract will start promptly. Besides the wage question, the matter of Union Security, seniority and a good grievance procedure will be high on the agenda.

"Del Monte" Field and Cannery Workers Organize

De Kalb, Ill.—Fed up with poor wages and working conditions and lack of job security, workers in the cannery and fields of the California Packing Co. here are on the high road to improving their situation in UCAPAWA style, according to Int. Rep. Jack Fox.

SEEK RECOGNITION

Chartered as Local 18, with a good majority of the workers paid-up members, the Local is now seeking recognition. Contract negotiations are expected to open shortly.

Some 700 to 1,000 are employed during the canning season, with about 100 year round workers. Products are peas, corn, beans—all Del Monte brand—with 35 percent of the work at the present time on government orders.

Clifford Brown is acting President and Curtis Dodden, acting Treasurer.

Facing Our Problems

by **DONALD HENDERSON**, *General President*

WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION

President Roosevelt's Executive Order establishing a War Food Administration with Secretary of Agriculture, Claude R. Wickard, as Administrator, will vitally affect all of our locals.

The Order includes not only food, but the growing, harvesting and processing of all agricultural commodities including tobacco, cotton, hemp, flax and vegetable oils, as well as edible foods.

I am printing below a letter to Food Administrator Wickard outlining our attitude and some major problems.

I urge that all locals take some action similar to the position outlined in this letter and communicate directly with Claude R. Wickard, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

December 10, 1942

Claude R. Wickard, Secretary,
Department of Agriculture,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

In the name of the CIO "Food for Victory Union," the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers of America, may I express our satisfaction at the real step forward which has been taken toward streamlining the war mobilization efforts of our country by the President's Executive Order of December 5th. This Order, centralizing the nation's food industries under your control, will provide a basis for more effective cooperation between all those groups whether farmers, farm workers, processing concerns or food processing workers. We want you to know that we will cooperate in every way possible in helping to carry out the purposes of the Order.

Our union has considerable strength in the food packing and processing fields, representing somewhat over 50,000 of those workers throughout the country in the fresh fruit and vegetable packing industries, canning industry, vegetable oils industry, tobacco industry, and the cotton seed oil and cotton compress industries.

URGE LABOR REPRESENTATION

We urge that effective representation of organized labor in these food industries be provided so that labor can cooperate and make its contribution in helping to solve these production and other problems.

In the field of agriculture proper, our union has become the only nationwide voice of the agricultural workers. We feel that we can aid materially in helping to solve the production, manpower, wages, and other economic problems which must be solved in this field. We offer you our full cooperation in achieving this and urge that you make proper provision for this cooperation in the appropriate agencies you are now establishing.

In addition to offering this cooperation, may we further express our views with regard to certain major problems which the President's Order makes even more necessary to face:

ESTABLISH CENTRAL PLANNING

While the President's Order covering the food industries as well as the recent order centralizing the manpower problem in the War Manpower Commission are definite steps forward and provide a basis for more centralized handling of war mobilization problems, these same orders make all the more imperative the immediate establishment of some central overall planning agency such as proposed by the Pepper-Kilgore-Tolan Bills.

It seems clear that with the successive establishment of agencies with control and direction over various aspects of our total war economy (such as OES with its related agencies of WLB and OPA over price relationship, WMC over manpower, Food and Oil Administrations, WPB over non-food production and distribution, and the armed forces) an Authority, with proper representation from these central agencies, to conduct overall planning and checkup becomes even more essential.

We urge that you do everything in your power to secure the establishment of some central overall agency, as suggested in the Pepper-Kilgore-Tolan Bills, by Presidential Executive Decree. It seems to us that problems facing you, as between your Food Administration and WPB, WMC and OES, cannot be properly handled without such overall planning and handling of interdependencies of these various agencies.

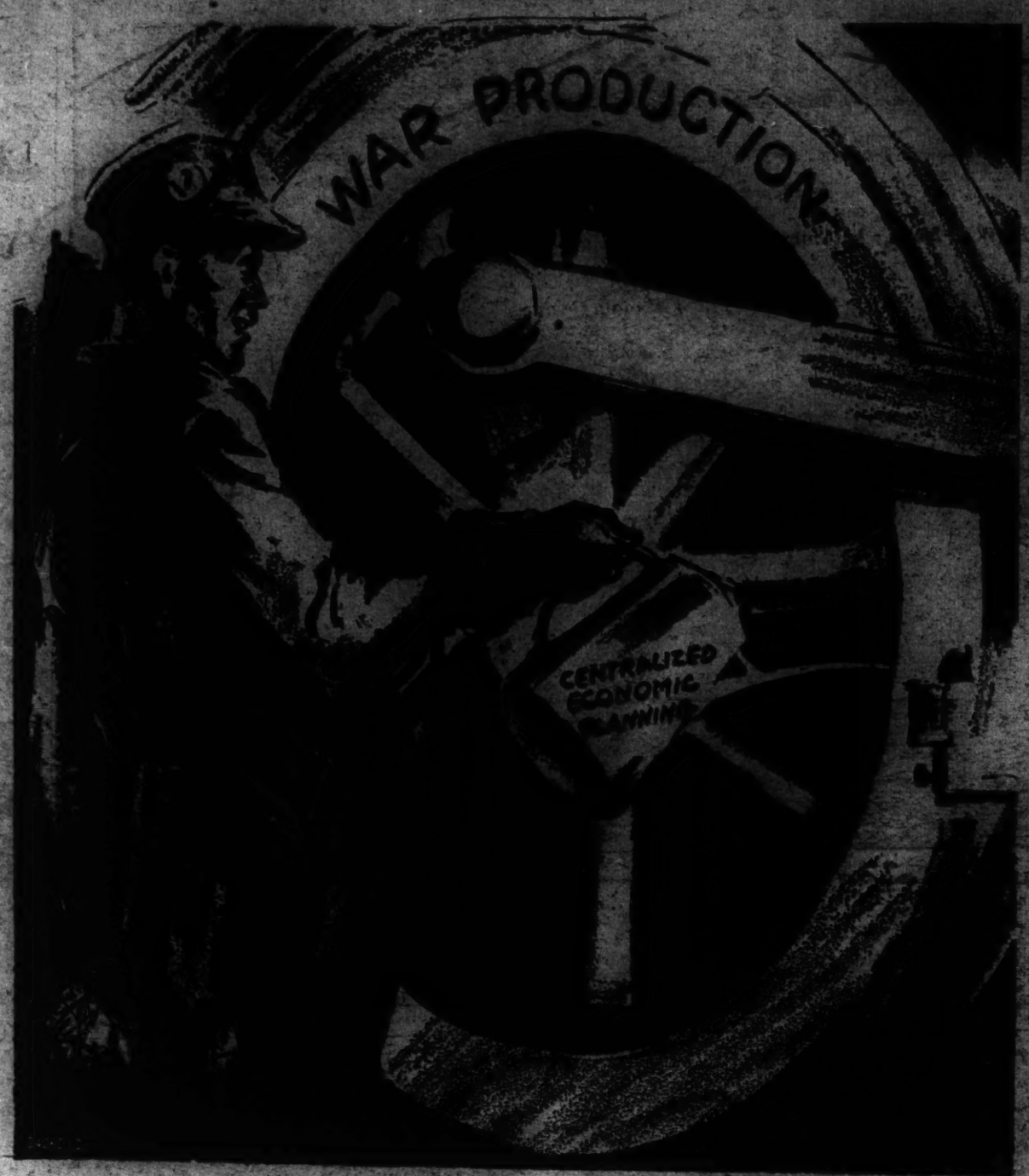
FOR IMMEDIATE RATIONING

Finally, we want to urge the necessity of immediate nationwide rationing. The sooner the consumable commodities going to the civilian public are distributed on the basis of need in terms of the war, rather than on the basis of supply, demand, and price relationships, the better. We urge that your Food Administration take steps to establish such nationwide rationing over all essential commodities.

Sincerely yours,

Donald Henderson

International President



Our Victory Oil Can

Every day we get news of the stiff battles our boys are fighting in the Pacific, in Africa. It is going to be a hard fight before the Axis armies are smashed; and producing food, gas and all the other supplies needed in great quantity for victory is not a pushover.

At the same time, we see influences at home that do not further our united fight, to put it mildly. We find some of our own members hounded, in fear of their lives; we find certain manufacturers trying to wipe out the War Labor Board, as a first move in "cleaning up" on the Unions; we see that a magazine of enormous circulation, Reader's Digest, peddles fascist, anti-labor ideas right in our own United States. These are only a few examples, reported in this issue of the paper.

The problems are big and complicated. But actually one simple act would do a tremendous amount to speed production for the fight, and to set back on their heels those who are hampering the war effort: establishment of centralized, economic planning, as proposed in the Pepper-Kilgore-Tolan bills.

Labor is fighting hard for this. Anti-union and fascist-minded people are bitterly opposed. By this time, every UCAPAWA Local should have discussed the matter and taken action. Has YOUR Local asked FDR to put the Tolan Plan into effect?

UCAPAWA News

Published Twice Monthly

Official publication of the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers of America, affiliated with the Congress of Industrial Organizations.
166 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago, Illinois.

Donald Henderson, General President
Conrad Espe, Executive Vice-President
Harold J. Lane, General Secretary-Treasurer

Vice-Presidents:
Lewis Bentzley, Robert Clark, Evelyn Marks
Luisa Moreno, Otis Nation
Dixie Tiller, Armando Valdes, Owen H. Whitfield

Editor: Cornelia M. Anderson
Subscription: $1 a year to non-members.
Entered as second class matter August 21, 1941, at the Post Office at Chicago, Illinois, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

VOL. II.—No. 27 DECEMBER 15, 1942

Forward March! by HAROLD J. LANE, Secretary-Treasurer

NEW CONSTITUTION

I regret that it was necessary to omit my column from the last issue of UCAPAWA News, but my time for the last month has been fully occupied visiting the locals in New York, Brooklyn, Newark, Camden, Philadelphia areas.

There are a number of changes in the International Constitution which affect our membership.

Unemployed dues remain the same—25c. But effective November 1, 15c should be sent to the International Office as per capita.

There has been a new section added to the Constitution stating that all initiations, dues, permit fees, reinstatement fees, fines and assessment fees are payable on the first pay received during the month.

Another section has been added covering membership standing. Any member in arrears for a period of thirty days shall be notified by the financial secretary. If such delinquent fails to place himself or herself in good standing within thirty days from such notice, he or she shall be considered in bad standing and shall be suspended.

Any member suspended for non-payment of dues may be reinstated by paying back dues, in addition to current month's dues, and a reinstatement fee of $5.00—50 per cent of which shall be sent to the National Office.

DELINQUENT LOCALS

Another section has been added, clarifying a local union standing. Any local union in arrears in per capita tax for a period of two months shall be considered in bad standing and shall be so notified by the General Secretary-Treasurer, who shall cause to be published the number and name of the local union in the official organ of the International Union. Any local union in arrears in per capita tax for a period of six months shall have their charter revoked and charter, seal and supplies and all monies and properties shall revert to the International Union.

ASSESSMENTS

Another addition to our Constitution concerns local union assessments. No local union shall levy a local union assessment until it has given full and complete details regarding the purpose of the assessment and until it has received the permission of the International Office.

There have been a number of additional changes in the Constitution which every officer and member should become familiar with. At the present time the Constitution as revised by the Fourth National Convention is in the hands of the printer and should be ready for distribution to the locals within ten days to two weeks. I suggest that as soon as the local union received the revised constitution there should be a thorough discussion by all officers and committees on the changes in order that they can be entirely familiar and be able to explain in detail the changes to their membership.

Building the Local

Shop Stewards represent the Union in the plant. Although other jobs are very important, too, the key to the strength of a Local is the quality of its shop steward system. Shop Stewards have a difficult job to perform, and in this they need the full understanding and backing of the membership.

In this series in the News on the Job of Shop Steward, this is the third and last article on:

DEALING WITH FOREMEN

ALTHOUGH the foreman represents the interests of the company as opposed to the workers, he is also a human being. Approach him like one. Find out what he is interested in. A few minutes in the opening of negotiations spent in a friendly conversation concerning generalities may pave the way to successful negotiations. However, the committeeman should not allow such a conversation to go on for very long.

DON'T give your foreman reason to believe that you are trying to bluff him. A reputation for honesty and good judgment is essential to your success in collective bargaining.

HOLD down on personalities and namecalling, and don't make threats of drastic action. It won't help settle grievances. And you can be even more forceful, when the occasion demands, if you have something in reserve. Try to avoid personal spite against a foreman because of unfair policies he is ordered to carry out by top management. When foremen are unfair, immediate steps should be taken to ascertain who should be held responsible for his attitude, and action should be taken immediately to correct the situation.

IF A foreman tries to bully you or talk you down, talk back quick and hard, but keep your temper. A lost temper usually means a lost argument.

VARIOUS forms of pressure will bring results from foremen who are trying to be hard. With some men publicity in local union papers or bulletins brings results. With others, reports to top management on trouble making foremen are the best medicine.

IN PLANTS where top management is sincerely anxious to work along with the union, a chronically disruptive foreman will be disciplined by his superiors.

YOUR relationship with the foreman should be that of equals seeking a solution to a common problem. But don't forget: the stronger the organization behind you, the more powerful your arguments will be. While it is assumed that the foreman is expected to supervise and direct the work, fair consideration must be given to the employes performing the operations.

Editor's Letter

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

We are still not getting enough news and pictures from the Local Unions. From talking with a number of members, I believe that this is due to over-modesty on the part of the membership.

Many people say "I could not write for a newspaper." That is not true. Any good union member can write for his paper.

There was a day when many of us said "we cannot form a union—we know too little, and the boss has too much power." We know the answer to THAT one. Similarly, it is possible to build a good paper when you put your mind to it.

The main idea at any rate is not to worry about writing news in professional, newspaper style. If some of the members fall into minor difficulties in spelling or whatnot, the Editor can fix that—that is her job.

The main idea is to have a nose for news, to be on the job to get a picture to illustrate it, if possible, and to write down the chief facts. You will see in the paper that some people are already doing this.

So let's make our 1943 News resolution: a Press Agent from every local union.

Because of the move to Philadelphia, next issue will be Jan. 15. News must be in by Jan. 6. The new address is on page 1.

Fraternaly yours,

Connie Anderson.

Industrial Barons Are Trying to Wreck WLB

New York (FP).—"A small minority of U. S. employers are carrying on a campaign to wreck the Natl. War Labor Board because they know full well that if they could get rid of the NWLB or emasculate its powers through legislation, they would be in a good position to destroy the unions in their plants."

This blunt indictment of "would be feudal barons" in American industry was delivered by Wayne Morse, public member of the NWLB, in a speech at the regional war conference of the American Bar Assn. in New York Dec. 7.

NAM CHARGES FALSE

Answering the attacks made on the NWLB by the Natl. Assn. of Manufacturers convention a few days before, Morse said: "Some of these critics, especially in the ranks of industry, gather together occasionally and pass scathing resolutions, charging the board with rendering extra legal decisions, of being partial, biased in its own opinions, of usurping the powers of congress and of imposing the closed shop on U. S. industry.

"Such beating of breasts and pounding of the drums of economic warfare is a rather cheap performance in time of war, in view of the fact that the open book record of the NWLB simply does not support the charges set forth in such resolutions."

EMPLOYERS VOTE ON WLB

To support this contention, Morse pointed out that in 65% of the board's decisions, labor, public and industry members reached unanimous decisions. In 30% of the cases, the public members voted half the time with labor and the other half with the employers. In the other 5%, the labor or industry groups were split.

"I submit," Morse asserted, "that the statistical results of our voting fail to disclose any plot against American employers, unless it is charged that the employer members of the NWLB, whose stature towers among American employers, are plotting against themselves."

Citizenship for HARRY BRIDGES Production Soldier

By LEO HUBERMAN

All UCAPAWA members will want to take part in the campaign to win full citizenship for Harry Bridges. First step is to get up-to-date on the case by reading "Citizenship for Harry Bridges, Production Soldier," which is an exciting story—only this time the story is true, and we have a chance to save the hero.

GET YOUR COPY—FREE

Samples of the pamphlet are being sent to local union Presidents. Every Local should order enough copies so that each member may have one. Simply write the Harry Bridges Victory Committee, either at 150 Golden Gate Ave., San Francisco, Calif. or at 1775 Broadway, New York City. The pamphlets are free.

Soon petitions asking President Roosevelt to act in the case will go into every CIO Council and Local Union. UCAPAWA members will want to aid in getting these petitions filled out.

CIO ASKS FDR ACTION

All the details of the seven-year persecution of Harry Bridges inspired by hate of a successful labor leader, including a brief summary of the stunts used in an effort to "get" Bridges are set forth in the pamphlet, together with a vivid account of his outstanding union and war record.

The recent CIO Convention unanimously called upon President Roosevelt to set aside the Bridges deportation order, which if carried out would be a serious setback to the cause of victory in the war. As CIO Pres. Philip Murray says:

BRIDGES SERVES U.S.A.

"The CIO has vigorously supported Harry Bridges' right to remain in this country and become in every sense a citizen of the United States. Now, in view of our nation's war of survival and in view of the urgent need for national unity and maximum war production, the CIO seeks this right more urgently than ever before."

Nursery Workers Score Another Dime

Monroe, Mich.—Workers at the Ilgenfritz Nursery here, the biggest nursery in the U. S. A. have again won a wage increase, this time 10c per hour—subject to approval by the WLB—according to Vice-Pres. Bob Clark.

Previously, Local 117 had gained increases of from 35 to 52½% since its organization in March 1942.

LITTLE LUTHER

"Who," asked Little Luther, "is the National Association of Manufacturers fighting, the Axis or the U. S. labor movement?"

"My boy, I don't know where you get such ideas," Mr. Dilworth replied.

"I've been listening to the radio speeches from their convention in New York. They keep saying all sorts of mean things about Phil Murray and Bill Green and Pres. Roosevelt, but I haven't heard them mention Hitler or Hirohito yet."

"I think you misunderstand them. Why, the NAM leaders are part of labor themselves. Such men as Mr. Sykes of Inland Steel and Mr. Pew of Sun Oil work a lot harder than any of their laborers."

"At what?"

"Don't be impertinent, Luther. These men not only have the problem of producing to win the war but they must preserve private enterprise for us all."

"If they've got so much to do, then why are they so strong against sharing some of the work and the worries with their workers through labor-management committees?"

"You don't understand, my boy. There is a place for the man in overalls and a place for the man—"

"In the diamond stickpin, Daddy?"

"Will you stop interrupting! The constructive work being done in the war effort is almost entirely by men from management. The destructive forces have other origins."

"Destructive forces like those 9 union members who were honored in Washington Dec. 10 as heroes of production?"

—By John Paine.

—Federated Pictures

IT'S LUNCHTIME at this Burbank, Calif. nursery where $1 a week keeps her child safe while mother is working. With thousands of such nurseries needed throughout the country, unions working with various government agencies are the driving force in the nursery movement. YOUR Local can get information how to start plugging for nurseries in your community by writing the CIO Auxiliaries, 1407 L. St., NW, Washington, D. C.

We Must Win Care for Workers' Kids, Says CIO

By Eleanor Fowler, Secretary-Treasurer, CIO Congress of Women's Auxiliaries

The President's order liquidating WPA brings the need for a national program for wartime care of children of working mothers into sharp focus. Not less than six million dollars of the current WPA appropriation was earmarked for care of those children. Those funds made possible the establishment of nursery schools in war areas throughout the country. Every effort must be made to see to it that that part of the WPA program is not abandoned, but is transferred to some other agency where it can continue and expand.

Evidence that child care is a pressing war manpower problem piles up every day. Sometimes you can't help wondering how many kids have to be burned to death, locked up in a room, while their parents are at work before a real national program for wartime care of children of working mothers will get under way.

The Civilian Defense Child Care Committee here in Washington, D. C. reports that 15 to 20 women a week notify the office that they are leaving work because they can't arrange adequate care for their children. On one day recently 20 women resigned from the War Department for the same reason. They say at the Navy Yard that you can always tell when it's 3 o'clock—the women slack off work because they are worried about their kids once school is out.

MOTHERS MUST WORK

In Baltimore, where 1,500 women a week must be recruited for work to keep war production at a peak, thousands of women have indicated willingness to work if child care is provided. In Detroit, 60 new nurseries have just been approved—by WPA—and they're just a beginning. In Akron, 5,000 women would take jobs if child care needs were met.

GOVT. MUST HELP

The program, for action on this problem, as adopted at the Second Annual Conference of CIO Auxiliaries in Boston, is: First, pressure on the Federal government to recognize child care as a responsibility of the War Manpower Commission. Second, active work in each community to see that all interested community groups and government agencies draw up plans to meet local needs and get funds from local, state or national government agencies to put plans into operation.

Christmas Tree And Fixin's to Treat CIO Kids

Santa Claus, a big Christmas tree, a magician, and ice cream are among the delights being planned for the children of Local 47 members. This Local, whose members work at Libby, McNeill and Libby in Blue Island, Ill. is giving a Christmas party which will first entertain the young folk and then later on be turned over to the grown-ups for dancing.

KIDS NEED FUN

"In a world at war it is more important than ever for our children to have a happy Christmas," said the Congress of Women's Auxiliaries of the CIO in urging union groups to plan parties. "Children feel the strain of all the wartime changes. It's important to give them the feeling of security and confidence which the traditional observance of Christmas can give."

"This old hack is like a street car... there won't be another along in a minute."

WLB Gives Green Light On "Equal Pay" Boosts

Washington.—The fight to break down discrimination against women, a fight in which UCAPAWA has played a leading part, has been progressing swiftly under the pressure of war circumstances. The Government is playing an increasingly strong part in winning "equal pay for equal work," which has long been a union principle.

GENERAL ORDER NO. 16

Latest move by the government to encourage equal pay for women is WLB General Order No. 16 which states that upward adjustments in pay for women workers to bring their rates up to the levels paid men for comparable quality and quantity of work need not wait for WLB approval. The order says:

"Adjustments which equalize the wage or salary rates paid to females with the rates paid to males for comparable quality and quantity of work on the same or similar operations, and adjustments in accordance with this policy which recognize or are based on differences in quality or quantity of work performed, may be made without approval of the War Labor Board, provided that:

"1. Such adjustments are reported, when made, to the Division of Review, Analysis and Research of the National War Labor Board together with sufficient information to show that they are in accordance with the policy referred to above;

"2. Such adjustments shall be subject to the Board's ultimate power of review, but any modification of reversal thereof will not be retroactive;

"3. Such adjustments shall not furnish a basis either to increase price ceilings of the commodity or service involved or to resist otherwise justified reductions in such price ceilings."

GOVT. ORDERS EQUALITY

In three cases in 1942, the Government, through the War Labor Board, clearly stated that women must get equal pay for equal work.

Most prominent of these cases was that of General Motors, in which the WLB told this great Corporation to set wage rates for women "in accordance with the principle of equal pay for comparable quantity and quality of work on comparable operations." This decision has become a precedent which the unions are using to force all companies to cease treating women as second class workers.

Another recent government move which helps to break down the idea that there is "women's work" and "men's work"—and that women should get short changed in the pay envelope—is publication of a pamphlet by Uncle Sam's Women's Bureau panning such old-fashioned ideas and actions.

PROTECTS FIGHTERS' JOBS

"It is of the utmost importance to the men leaving industry for the armed forces, as well as to the women war workers, that wage standards should be maintained at this time when large new groups of women are carrying on war industry production," Mary Anderson, director of the Women's Bureau, declared in announcing the bulletin.

FOR EFFICIENT WORK

Asserting that "it is an essential part of the efficient conduct of the war to provide adequate wage standards for these workers, many of them new to industry, the pamphlet holds that "it is basically unfair to pay one worker a lower wage than another for substantially the same work."

Furthermore, it states, "men leaving to go into the armed forces must be able to feel that the women who carry on in industry are not being forced to undercut established wage standards."

YOUR DOLLAR

By Consumers Union

WORK PANTS

When you buy work pants, look first for a label statement of pre-shrinking. It's your best guarantee of satisfaction after laundering. Check on the fabric weight, which should be on the label too. A 10 ounce denim is practical for farmers and heavy industry workers, but most factory workers prefer 8 ounce cloth.

Work pants should be washed before they get too dirty. Grit, grease and perspiration which become embedded will weaken the cloth.

Consumers Union tested 18 wellknown brands of work pants, and found that though almost all of them came up to standard requirements, some were better buys than others. Pay Day, which topped the list for quality, cost only $1.59. Other good buys were Power House (Montgomery Ward, $1.49 plus postage) and Hercules (Sears Roebuck, $1.45 plus postage). Most of the other brands tested cost about $2 Here's how the top 10 brands rated, in order of quality alone: Pay Day (J. C. Penny, $1.59. 10 oz. denim), Can't Bust 'em ($1.98. 10 oz. denim), Headlight ($1.98. 8½ oz. denim), Sweet-Orr ($1.98. 8 oz. denim), Power House Cat. No. 6174 (Montgomery Ward, $1.49 plus postage. 8½ oz. denim), Auto-Brand ($1.98. 8 oz. denim), Oshkosh ($1.89. 8½ oz. denim, Hercules Cat. No. 51 L 17 (Sears Roebuck, $1.45 plus postage. 8½ oz. denim), Liberty ($1.98. 7½ oz. denim), Lee ($1.98. 8 oz. denim).

The following acceptable brands tested by CU are union-made, under contract with the United Garment Workers (AFL): Can't Bust 'em, Headlight, Sweet-Orr, Power House, Auto-Brand, Oshkosh, Liberty, Lee, Red Bar.

COUGH REMEDIES

Coughs—and the sale of cough medicines—reach their peak during the fall and winter. It's hard to tell which does more damage, CU's medical adviser says—the cough or the socalled remedies. Cough "remedies" sometimes cover up symptoms of series disorders such as tuberculosis, lung abscess or chest tumors.

Coughs resulting from colds are more common. They're usually brought on by improper treatment of the cold itself. Nose drops, for instance, are apt to spread the inflammation into the throat and sinuses, and cause a cough. Frequent sniffling or too vigorous nose blowing will cause irritation and coughing. The best way to prevent coughs and other complications is to go to bed the first day of a cold, and stay there till it's over.

TRY HOT DRINKS

If you start coughing, don't waste your money on patent medicine. Instead, try a long, hot drink every hour or so. Inhale steam for 10 minutes, 2 or 3 times a day. Take cough drops if they make you happier. But it's the sugar in them that helps, and ordinary candy drops will do as well. If the cough persists for more than 4 weeks, or is associated with fever or with spitting of blood, see a doctor.

The facts and opinions given are based on Consumer Reports, the monthly magazine of Consumers Union, 17 Union Sq., New York, a non-profit organization whose main object is to safeguard buyers by testing and reporting on consumer goods.

TURN TOY MAKER. These two patterns suggest the soft toys young children love. Make them from scraps of material around the house. Pattern No. 8293 is for twin dolls 15 inches long. Pattern No. 8589 includes a rabbit, bear, duck and chicken. Send 15c in coin (for each pattern), your name, address, and pattern number to Federated Press Pattern Service, 106 Seventh Avenue, New York, N. Y. Enclose 1c postage for each pattern.

Santa's Sack Is Still Full

New York.—(FP)—The tin soldier and rubber doll are playing hookey from the toy counters this Christmas, but their stuffed brethren—decorated with union labels—are there en masse.

Despite the shortage of vital materials such as metal, rubber, and pigment, the toy industry as a whole has not been affected greatly by the war production program, according to Research Director Alex Bail of the United Paper Novelty and Toy Workers (CIO).

HELP CHILDREN

Partly responsible is the attitude of the government, which considers the continued output of toys essential for the morale of the nation's children. This in turn is based on a survey made in England which showed that cases of shock during air raids were astonishingly lower when children had toys to distract them.

WAR SHIPPING ADMINISTRATION
DIVISION OF TRAINING
UNITED STATES MARITIME SERVICE
ENROLLING OFFICE

New Orleans, La.,
29 October, 1942.

[redacted]

Sir:-

Reference is made to your letter of recent date to the Training Division, Boston, Mass., regarding employment in the merchant marine as a radio operator.

You are informed that there is no training for colored men in the radio department, however, we are enclosing an information circular containing full information on the Apprentice Seaman Training.

If, after checking over the circular, you desire to enroll for this training you should fill out the enclosed form, "Application for Enrollment as Apprentice Seaman", and mail to the Commandant, U. S. Maritime Service, National Theatre Building, Washington, D. C., if approved you will be notified when and where to report for enrollment.

Very truly yours,

[redacted]
Enrolling Officer

MADE PUBLIC BY A CIO UNION, this "no training for colored men" letter caused the writer to be removed as War Shipping Administration enrollment officer in New Orleans. The WSA says it will continue a no-discrimination policy.

We Seek Minimum Pay For 'Frozen' Ag. Workers

Washington.—No workers should be forced to stay on a job if the conditions are terrible. Yet that is the situation many farm workers find themselves in as a result of the Tydings Amendment to the Teen Age Draft Act. UCAPAWA is plugging to get the situation remedied in Washington.

The Tydings Amendment is a work or fight order which freezes farm workers on the job "until a satisfactory replacement can be obtained." As the situation stands now, a farm worker with dependents, employed at substandard wages, would be re-classified I-A if he tried to get a job in a steel mill, for instance.

No procedure has been set up by Selective Service for determining whether replacements are available. No wage standards have been established below which the freeze will not apply.

WAGES HELD DOWN

Director of Economic Stabilization Byrnes issued an order lifting the ceiling from farm wages, stating that the general level of wages for agricultural labor is at present substandard and far below wage levels in industry. The effect of the Tydings amendment is to nullify in large part the increase in farm wages intended by the Byrnes order.

ASK ABOUT 100% BOOST

If there were minimum wages below which no worker could be frozen to his job, set at the level of the average rate at which unskilled labor starts work in industry, the worst angle of this dangerous "freeze" situation would be straightened out.

This would mean setting minimums from about 41 to 73 cents, depending on the area. Present hourly rates for farm workers run from 18½c in the lowest area to 47½ cents in the Pacific area.

Creamery Wins Pay Increases

Huntingburg, Ind.—Good wage increases are attached to the second contract just negotiated by Local 124 with the Ellsworth Creamery here, according to Herschel Lile, Int. Rep. who assisted the Local Committee. Increases are subject to WLB approval.

ICE CREAM MEN $40

In the new contract cheesemakers and ice cream men are guaranteed $40 a week, with work over 60 hours per week to be paid for at $1.00 an hour. For engineers and boiler men the minimum guaranteed is $32.50 with an overtime rate of 80c per hour.

While the rate for laborers is left at 50c per hour, it is understood that the Union Committee and Management will get together on increases as the work improves.

PAID VACATIONS

On vacation pay, workers with one or more years' seniority get 2% of their 1942 wages, while those with less seniority get 2% of wages earned.

Milling Local Won't Stay Down—Seeks Vote

Harbor Beach, Mich.—Local 20 at Huron Milling Co. here is about to stage a comeback following a lost election last year. About 330 are employed.

Not willing to take a permanent set-back, and with it becoming more clear each day that they needed to be part of UCAPAWA, the workers called on Int. Vice-Pres. Bob Clark to lend them a hand in getting on their feet.

With a majority signed up, the Local has petitioned for an NLRB election. Bet your money on UCAPAWA and you will be rich—if you can find any takers.

Mrs. Clarich Sends Christmas Greetings

"I don't have enough words to express my appreciation to all the locals who have been helping my children and me," writes Mrs. Christopher Clarich. "Hope all of you have a nice Christmas Season."

Mrs. Clarich reports that the following locals sent contributions in November: 3, 7-2, 26, 47, 55, 62, 79, 80, and 638.

REMEMBER CLARICH

Chris Clarich was thrown into jail on a trumped-up murder charge during a shrimp peelers' strike in Aransas, Texas, in 1938.

UCAPAWA locals have been helping Mrs. Clarich and the four children to keep going; but not enough of the locals have taken part. Where are the others?

Mrs. Clarich's address is 821 17th St., Corpus Christi, Texas.

Free Clarich!

Water Tight Union Shop in Preserve Pact

Philadelphia, Pa.—The contract signed recently between Local 186 and the American Preserve Co., manufacturers of preserves, jellies and allied products provides a union shop, improved pay and working conditions and an Impartial Board of Arbitration to decide unsettled disputes.

SIX PAID HOLIDAYS

Besides pay increases (subject to War Labor Board approval), the contract calls for one week's vacation with pay and six paid holidays, on which days no work is performed.

New workers must join the Union the day they go to work, and old workers must be in good standing to keep their jobs. The Company has the right to discharge a worker within the trial period of ten days.

Other features of the agreement include provision that all work shall be on an hourly, time basis.

The contract, to run until at least Feb. 1, 1944 was signed for the Union by Business Agent William Robbins and the Shop Committee as follows: Walter Sammler, Francis Lauch, Elmer Young, James P. Otto and John Wachendorfer. Other signers are W. Kyrel Meschter for the Company and Rose Forrester, Commissioner of the U. S. Conciliation Service and Edward J. Heany of the Penn. State Dept. of Labor and Industry.

Compress Local Hears CIO Sailor Laud Russia

Houston, Texas.—Some 200 cotton compress workers at the regular meeting of Local 75 in November paid homage to our brave Russian allies.

The union members, Spanish-speaking and Negro workers, expressed their admiration for the Red Army by contributing to a collection taken up for Russian War Relief.

Principal speaker of the evening was Clyde N. Drake, Houston agent for the National Maritime Union (CIO), who has sailed to the Soviet Union on four different occasions.

UNITY IN SOVIET UNION

Drake described the great progress he had observed in the country and gave the union audience a clear picture of the unity of the people that has made their heroic resistance against the Nazi war machine possible.

"The Russian people are looking to workers all over the world," Drake said, "to help them in these trying times. The Russian people need medical supplies not only for the brave Red Army soldiers but for women and children as well. The Eastern front in Russia is our own line of defense and we cannot fail them."

WIVES EXHIBIT KNITTING

The Ladies' Auxiliary of the local which is organized in a Knitting Club demonstrated its work at the meeting. Members of the union had an opportunity to inspect the sweaters which the women have been learning to knit for our American soldiers and sailors. Members are learning to qualify for official Red Cross work.

Huge Magazine Favors Fascism Says "In Fact"

Pleasantville, N. Y. (FP).—Readers Digest, the magazine with the biggest circulation in the world, is accused by the Nov. 16 In Fact of having a publisher who does not want Hitler defeated; of hiring a new editor who printed fascist propaganda in the American Mercury; and of having consistently printed anti-labor propaganda.

Published in this small town by DeWitt Wallace, who started 21 years ago with a pair of scissors, Readers Digest has a circulation of 7 million and claims 40 million readers.

In Fact charges that there was a revolt by minor editors against Wallace's reactionary policies. Wallace, according to In Fact, called the staff together and made the following statement:

FEARS HITLER DEFEAT

"We do not want Germany completely defeated. I think Germany should be beaten up a bit, and I prefer that the American army does it, so that Hitler will learn who is boss in this world.

"But I do not want Germany smashed. What will become of the continent of Europe if Hitler is killed and fascism completely eradicated? The Russians will conquer all of Europe. Therefore our policy should be to whip Hitler to the point where he recognizes we are the biggest power in the world and then keep Hitler in Europe to police the continent and maintain order.

FOR "A LITTLE FASCISM"

"We also need a little fascism in the U. S. to keep this country in order. We need a certain type of fascism here to keep radicals out and radical systems and philosophies from making any headway, and even attempting to take over the government."

Wallace, In Fact charges, repeated this statement in different wording when the staff protested the appointment of Paul Palmer, former editor of the American Mercury, as editor of Readers Digest. In Fact recalls that when Palmer became editor of the Mercury, one of his first acts was to publish an article by Lawrence Dennis, self-proclaimed spokesman for American fascism. Several more of Dennis' articles urging fascism for the U. S. followed.

FAVOR "PESTBROOK"

Typical of Readers Digest's anti-labor policy is the fact that Westbrook Pegler is one of the few newspaper columnists whom the magazine reprints regularly.

The most scurrilous column Pegler ever wrote, that in which he lampooned Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, the wife of the U. S. commander-in-chief, was one of those reprinted by Readers Digest.

"The leading labor baiter of Readers Digest," In Fact says, "is one of its own editors, William Hard, who appears with an attack on labor, liberals, unions, progressive ideas, radicals every month. Hard is known to carry out Wallace's own anti-labor, anti-liberal prejudices."

Whereabouts of Boys

Service addresses of boys in the Armed Forces are not published in UCAPAWA **News**. This is in line with the government's policy to keep everything out of print which might give the enemy tips on troup movements.

Local Unions should post prominently the service addresses of former members so that their union friends will be able to write them easily. Copies of such lists should be forwarded promptly to the **News** so that the names may be added to the newspaper mailing list.

TOLAN—THE MAN NOBODY KNEW

By Virginia Gardner
Federated Press

The time is 1940. Scene, the Congressional club. Nibbling a cake and balancing a cup of tea with the other wives of congressmen is a pleasant-faced woman with blue eyes and a quick smile. During a lull in the teacup chatter a woman turned to her and said: "Is it your husband who is raising all this fuss over the bums who are crossing our state borders?"

Recalling it, Mrs. Alma D. Tolan smiles, but her eyes harden as she repeats her reply: "'Yes, that is my husband. It is my husband who is fighting for those citizens.'"

"We weren't popular then," says Mrs. Tolan, wife of Rep. John H. Tolan (D., Calif.), whose latest report to congress on our war economy has electrified Washington, and is supported by the AFL, the CIO and the railway brotherhoods.

DEVELOPS WAR PLAN

Its recommendation for a centralized civilian agency which would have overall control over existing war agencies is the outgrowth of the thorough investigation which Tolan began in 1940 of migratory labor and which he later developed into a study of our whole economy as a result of studying defense migration.

The recommendation is incorporated in the Pepper-Kilgore-Tolan bill, supported by labor.

"In 1940 congressmen used to ridicule Mr. Tolan. They called him 'Migrant' on the floor of congress. Now" she mused, "it's different."

ALWAYS DEMOCRATIC

Early in 1935, at their first White House reception, the Tolans were talking to some southern representatives. Recognizing Rep. Arthur Mitchell (R., Ill.), Tolan went over to shake hands with him and his wife.

When he returned, one southerner told him he had made a faux pas by talking to the Negro congressman.

Tolan replied: "If he's good enough for the White House, he's good enough for me. He only represents 300,000 citizens, you know."

Federated Pictures

IT TOOK WAR WORKER Michael DuMond 4 months after getting a job to find a tiny hotel room for his wife and two children at $60 a month. It's stories like this which showed Tolan the need for planning—a need which he heard described by ordinary people.

—Federated Pictures

REP. AND MRS. JOHN H. TOLAN with their grandson, John Joseph Kerr, age 4, who lives with them in Washington since his father, Lieut. Francis P. Kerr, was killed in a naval dive bomber.

LIKES PEOPLE

Tolan is 63 years old. Of medium height, broad shouldered, with no sign of a waistline, Tolan has a quick step and talks in short, easy sentences. He studies his listener with large sensitive brown eyes which are said to make migrant witnesses talk fluently.

His speech he keeps carefully free of imposing words. He talks in the vernacular of the people. He's known on Capitol Hill for his genius as a questioner. This he belittles.

"It's just that I like people," he said. "I like to see and hear them."

SIMPLE, DIRECT

The committee questioned 300 migrants, and most of them were questioned by Tolan. He doesn't want to talk to social workers and experts about people, but to the people themselves.

"Once," Tolan related, "I asked a migrant where they'd stopped at night. He'd brought his family clear across country because he heard of a job. I got a little careless and used formal language. 'Did you have all the latest sanitary conveniences,' I asked He just looked at me and said: 'No, the earliest. We'd pitch camp near a clump of willows.'"

Tolan has no flair for publicity. When he should be dramatic, he's casual. He is the despair of a few close friends who sincerely want to get across to the public some inkling of why and how this seemingly humdrum man from a Republican community in California began blazing new social-legislative trails.

"He has a very colorful background," one of them insisted. "He was run out of Montana because he fought the Anaconda Copper Co."

But listen to Tolan tell it, and it's nothing of the kind.

HELPED WORKERS

"Yes, I had a lot of cases against Anaconda," he said. "I was in law practice in Anaconda and later Missoula, Mont. The company has the largest smelting plant in the world at Anaconda, and it owns the railroad to Butte, and lumber yards and mills at Bonner, and a power plant at Thompson Falls. A lot of workers got injured and I handled damage suits. I mostly won."

"Didn't the company go in for reprisals?"

"Oh, no, they couldn't do anything to me," he said serenely.

"Wasn't it quite a fight, standing up against their battery of—did you say they had 35 lawyers in those parts?"

"Something like that. No, I had a partner," he said laconically. "And there were farmers on the juries."

WORKED HARD

Tolan was born in St. Peter, Minn., set type and ran off 400 newspapers a week on an old press for Editor John A. Johnson of the St. Peter Herald, later governor. He went to Anaconda when he was 20, to make ice cream and jerk sodas for his brother. He studied law by correspondence and later at the University of Kansas.

"There were the fraternity boys and then there were the 'barbs,' for barbarians. I was a barb," he said with evident satisfaction.

In 1904 he was elected a county attorney in Montana, and when in 1908 he ran for attorney general, he missed election by only 200 votes—from "some of the cow counties." The congressman volunteered the story of how he left Missoula, which is repeated here because of the light it throws on his relationship with his wife.

It was Christmas eve, 1914, when Tolan learned he had to leave on business for California, that night.

"MOTHER" STICKS BY HIM

"I went home and told mother," he said. "'Now if you had any good clothes, you could leave the babies with your mother and go with me,' I said. 'I'll find them,' she said. I went on back to my office to look up some law.

"She was one of seven sisters and there were five brothers, too, most of them married and living around there. She went the rounds, borrowed a hat from one, a dress from another. When I got to the station, there she was, dressed up like Mrs. Astor."

After they returned, Alma Tolan kept hankering after California. "As she's generally right, I finally gave in," he said.

LEARNED OF "ARKIES"

It was Jack Tolan, their oldest son, who first became interested in the migrants, in the days when California was patroling its borders to keep the "Okies" and the "Arkies" out. Jack, who's now a specialist with the War Production Board, learned about Okies from Dr. Paul Taylor, University of California. When he got no place with his father, Jack went to his mother, and interested her in the things that underlay the great shifting of the uprooted and dispossessed all across America.

"Of course when his mother took hold, I agreed," said Tolan unaffectedly.

FOR THE PIONEERS

"In April, 1939, I introduced a resolution—and that was before 'Grapes of Wrath,'" he said a little testily, alluding to John Steinbeck's great social novel about the Okies, which is often credited with inspiring the Tolan committee.

"There were four million people on the road then," Tolan said, "stateless, voteless and voiceless. Many were barred from relief if they went back home. They were guilty of only one thing—having the American pioneering spirit. They refused to stay and starve in one place. Their hope wouldn't die. They'd move on, at the first hint of a job opening."

STUDIED AMERICA

A study of the uprooted means a study of housing, of private employment agencies of great industrial farms and working conditions. As defense work started, these studies were intensified.

"In other words," said Tolan, using one of his speech-sparing colloquialisms, "to understand the Mississippi, you got to know something about its tributaries."

PIONEERS IN PRODUCTION

"They've picked up a lot of our ideas," said Tolan confidently. "We break the ground. A year and a half ago we went to Detroit and held hearings on conversion. William Knudsen said the maximum conversion of the industry to war production would be 15 per cent. Every witness said it couldn't be done. We said it could. Today conversion's 60 per cent in the industry."

An example of how Tolan's questioning brings the facts from the most inarticulate witnesses follows:

THE CHAIRMAN (to William E. Ratell, who paid $3 a week for two rooms in Camden after a four-day search): What about a bath?

FAST ROACHES

WITNESS RATELL: Well, we had a bath, but in this building there were four families using the same bathtub and same toilet.

Q. Were they large families? A. No, they weren't, about four in each family.

Q. Was that in an old house or a new house? A. An old house.

Q. Did you find anything else about that house that you didn't like? A. We sure did. Cockroaches.

Q. Well, how were they, pretty good size? A. They sure were.

Q. Were they fast? A. Faster than lightning.

FAITH IN PEOPLE

Tolan's work rests on his belief that "if you show the facts to the American people, they'll see that what's needed is done." He is confident that the public is demanding a more well ordered and directed administration of production, and that a knitting together of our to-date scattered war effort will come.

Throughout his interview with me, Tolan occasionally turned to a large photo showing the lean face and clear gaze of a migrant mother and her two camera-shy youngsters.

"My wife pretended she had that enlarged for me," he said, "but she did it for herself. I'm getting so I like it almost as well, though. If I want to get away from Washington, I just look at that face and it takes me across country."

—Federated Pictures

"THEY WERE GUILTY OF ONLY ONE THING—having the American pioneering spirit. They refused to stay and starve in one place. Their hope wouldn't die. They'd move on, at the first hint of a job opening."—Rep. Tolan.